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Message Text

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70
ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EB-11

NIC-01 IO-12 RSR-01 OMB-01 AID-20 /130 W
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R 052125 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9355
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
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EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, VE, BL
SUBJECT: VISIT OF BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VENEZUELA

REF: LA PAZ 1905

SUMMARY: ON OFFICIAL VISIT APRIL 1-3, BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GUTIERREZ SIGNED TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT, STATED BANZER WILL VISIT VENEZUELA, PREDICTED BOLIVIAN ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD IN 1974, SUPPORTED CALVANI INITIATIVE TO MODERNIZE OAS, AND STATED BOLIVIA WILL SUPPORT ENTRY OF CUBA INTO OAS WHEN CUBA RENOUNCES INTERVENTION.

END SUMMARY

1. SOMEWHAT OVERSHADOWED BY VISIT OF JAMAICAN PRIME MINISTER MANLEY MARCH 26- APRIL 1, BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DR. MARIO GUTIERREZ MADE OFFICIAL VISIT TO VENEZUELA APRIL 1-3, ENROUTE FROM LA PAZ TO OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE AND DAUGHTER,

AMBASSADOR JERJES VACA DIAZ, AND COUNSELORS GUILLERMO BANZER AND EDWIN

ORTIZ.

2. IN CARACAS, GUTIERREZ MET WITH PRESIDENT CALDERA, FOREIGN
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MINISTER CALVANI, ACTING MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS, INMER BELIS, AND HEADS OF CORDIPLAN, STATE- OWNED CORPORACION VENEZOLANA DE PETROLEO, AND INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN TRADE. TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT (ANOTHER OF INNUMERABLE SUCH AGREEMENTS VENEZUELA HAS SIGNED

WITH VARIOUS COUNTRIES) WAS SIGNED, PROVIDING FOR COLLABORATION IN RESEARCH AND TRAINING, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES, AND EXCHANGE OF
INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS. VENEZUELAN/ BOLIVIAN MIXED COMMISSION IS TO MEET WITHIN SIX MONTHS TO SET PRIORITIES FOR COOPERATIVE TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS, PROPOSE SPECIFIC PROJECTS, AND LATER EVALUATE PROJECTS.

3. IN PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 3, GUTIERREZ MENTIONED IRON AND STEEL AND PETROCHEMICALS AS FIELDS IN WHICH BOLIVIA HOPES TO BENEFIT FROM TECHNICAL COOPERATION. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, HE STATED BANZER WILL VISIT VENEZEZUELA THIS YEAR, THERE HAS BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS WITH CHILE, AND BOLIVIA WILL SUPPORT ENTRY OF CUBA INTO OAS " IF AND WHEN HAVANA IS ABLE TO ASSURE THAT IT WILL NOT INTERVENE IN THE INTERNAL POLITICS OF OUR COUNTRIES." GUTIERREZ EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR CALVANI' S INITIATIVE TO DISCUSS MODERNIZATION OF OAS. ON INTERNAL BOLIVIAN AFFAIRS, HE STATED THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HIS FALANGE SOCIALISTA BOLIVIANA, AND PAZ ESTENSORO' S MOVIMIENTO NACIONALISTA REVOLUCIONARIO " ARE NOT SO DEEP AS ONE MIGHT THINK," SINCE HERNAN SILES SUAZO LEFT MNR. ' PATRIOTIC DIALOGUE" BETWEEN MNR AND FALANGE HE CONTINUED, HAS ALLOWED BOLIVIA
TO RID ITSELF OF " FOREIGN HEGEMONY" EXISTING DURING TORRES REGIME. HE STATED GOVERNMENT HAS MAJORITY SUPPORT AMONG PEOPLE AND ARMED FORCES AND, REPLYING TO QUESTION WHETHER INVESTORS WOULD NOT FEEL MORE PROTECTED UNDER ELECTED GOVERNMENT, PREDICTED ELECTIONS WILL BE CALLED IN EARLY 1974.
MCCLINTOCK

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